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September 20, 1996

Senator Ishmail John
Mayor Naptali Peter
Enewetak/Ujeland Local Government Council
P. O. Box 1199
Majuro, Marshall Islands MH96960

Dear Senator John, Mayor Peter, and Council Members:

We are in the midst of planning our next whole-body counting and urine bioassay mission, scheduled by DOE and us, for the period October 29th through (approximately) November 22nd. It is in this regard that I am writing, asking for your assistance with several matters.

During this mission we plan on continuing our whole-body counting activities, and resuming urine bioassays. For the latter, we will be asking for volunteers from a group of children and young adults from whom we collected samples during 1993. In addition, we hope to collect urine from adults, and take types of samples that could eventually lead to major improvements in our ability to meet your needs as expressed on several occasions in the past.

Recall that during our last DOE program review meeting in Honolulu this past May, we had several discussions concerning our whole-body counting and urine collection activities, such as the number of Enewetak residents to involve, whether 24-hr urine samples could be collected at the field station, the need for collecting urine from adults as well as children, etc. We all agreed that it would be in everyone's best interest to expand the age groups from whom urine is collected, to maintain the quality of our samples, and to improve the urine collection process so that we could obtain more samples within available facilities.

In my presentation I mentioned that we were interested in determining whether samples could be collected at peoples' homes, and whether a single (e.g., "spot") sample could be collected in lieu of a 24-hour composite sample. To answer these questions, during this mission we would very much like to collect both types of samples, both in a controlled setting, and at peoples' homes.

At present the DOE is ascertaining whether the controlled setting will be onboard a ship anchored offshore Enewetak Island, or at the Enewetak field station.

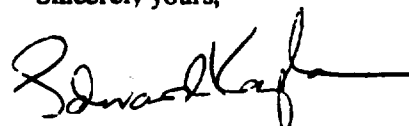
We would like to ask individuals to participate in collection in both the controlled setting and at homes, where we would also ask them to contribute both 24-hour and spot samples. On Enewetak Island spot samples would be collected at the field station, and 24-hour samples would be collected either at the field station or at home (or perhaps both).

I would like your perspectives on what I have proposed. Your support will make our plans most productive. Also, your cooperation and assistance are very important to us, particularly by helping to schedule a community meeting at the beginning of our mission, at which time we would explain our goals and procedures. Your assisting us in identifying those individuals who would be participants in this trial collection program would also be greatly appreciated.

Because time is of the essence, I would greatly appreciate receiving your thoughts in writing before October 7th. Mr. Bill Jackson has agreed to personally deliver this letter to you so it arrives as soon as possible. Please feel free to discuss these matters with him, and perhaps to use him return your suggestions, advice, and input to us.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation, and look forward to working with you to ensure that future missions meet all of our many needs.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edward Kaplan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Edward Kaplan, Ph.D.
Radiological Sciences Division

EK/jk

cc: Ambassador Banny deBrum
T. Bell (DOE/HQ)
W. Jackson (DOE/Honolulu)
D. Pevec